

## STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

3100 Port of Benton Blvd • Richland, WA 99352 • (509) 372-7950

March 21, 2008

Ms. Shirley J. Olinger, Manager Office of River Protection United States Department of Energy P. O. Box 450; MSIN: H6-60 Richland, Washington 99352



**EDMC** 

Dear Ms. Olinger:

Re: Department of Ecology Concurrence with *Process to Assess Tank Farm Leaks in Support of Retrieval and Closure Planning*, RPP-32681, Revision 0

Reference: Letter 07-TPD-051, dated September 25, 2007, from S. J. Olinger, USDOE-ORP, to J. A. Hedges, Ecology, "Transmittal of Process to Assess Tank Farm Leaks in Support of Retrieval and Closure Planning, RPP-32681, Revision 0, for Concurrence"

The Department of Ecology concurs with the process as described in the subject document. We provided informal comments, which the United States Department of Energy incorporated in Revision 0 of this document. This process establishes a rigorous, technically based process for estimating the volume and inventory of contaminated material released into the environment from waste leaks and releases within the tank farms. This information will support future tank waste retrievals, planning for additional vadose zone corrective actions, and tank farm closure actions.

Over the past several months a joint working group has re-assessed the past tank leaks and unplanned releases (UPR) in the Hanford C-Tank Farm. This supports ongoing waste retrieval activities in the C Tank Farm. Revision 1 of document *Hanford C Farm Leak Assessments Report: 241-C-101 and 241-C-110*, RPP-ENV-33418, will summarize the findings from this process, and we look forward to its release.

Data and information determined through this process indicated that the soil contamination associated with Tanks 241-C-110 and 241-C-111 was not from a breach in containment of the tanks. Furthermore, the working group determined that Tank 241-C-105 may have leaked or that a leak may have occurred near the tank. Ecology requests that a tank integrity assessment be conducted for this tank.

Ms. Shirley J. Olinger March 21, 2008 Page 2

Ecology requests that the *Waste Tank Summary Report*, HNF-EP-0182, be revised to reflect the reported leak statuses of these three tanks, as well as the reported tank leak and UPR discharge volumes reported in RPP-ENV-33418, Revision 1, and RPP-23405.

If there are questions, contact me at 509-372-7914.

Sincerely,

Jeffery J. Lyon

Tank Waste Storage Project Manager

**Nuclear Waste Program** 

laf/aa

cc: Jim Field, CH2M

Moses Jaraysi, CH2M

Stuart Harris, CTUIR

Gabriel Bohnee, NPT

Russell Jim, YN

Susan Leckband, HAB

Ken Niles, ODOE

Administrative Record: SST/Tank Waste Storage

**CH2M Correspondence Control** 

**Environmental Portal** 

USDOE-ORP Correspondence Control